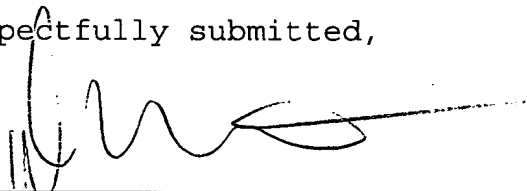


APPLICANT'S RESPONSE

Applicant hereby elects, for prosecution in this application, the claims directed to the Group I, without traverse. The following claims are directed to group I: 1-11. This election is expressly without prejudice to applicant's right to pursue the non-elected inventions in one or more divisional applications. Claim 12 has been canceled.

An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



By  
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

It is hereby certified that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to:  
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On MAY 23, 2002

By Noemi Chgo